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loading platform as well as a slide unit, which is back and forth movable in the longitudinal direction of the vehicle and to which at least the lift support arrangement, the loading platform and at least the lift actuator device are attached, said slide unit being mountable on the support frame of the vehicle by way of transverse members which bridge the distance between two spaced frame members forming essentially the vehicle support frame and at their longitudinal ends are firmly connected to said vehicle support frame.

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3. A loading platform system according to claim 1, wherein (said transverse member) is provided at its opposite ends with front elements which are connected to the transverse member and by way of which the transverse member is mounted on said support frame.

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6. A loading platform system according to claim 1, wherein (said transverse member) is so mounted on the slide unit that said slide unit is movable essentially in the longitudinal direction with respect to said support frame of the vehicle when a force is effective on said slide unit which exceeds a predetermined amount.

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8. A loading platform system according to claim 1, wherein said slide unit comprises at least two essentially parallel spaced guide elements which are stationary relative to the vehicle and at least two essentially parallel spaced slide elements which are support members that are movable longitudinally relative to the vehicle and back and forth movably supported by said guide elements.

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10. A loading platform system according to claim 8, wherein said slide elements are slideably supported in the guide elements.

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13. A loading platform system according to claim 12, wherein said stops include holes, which are oriented in the longitudinal direction of the vehicle and said slide elements include support pins which extend into said holes and are engaged therein when said slide elements are in their rear end positions.

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18. A loading platform system according to claim 1, wherein a slide actuator is provided for moving said slide elements back and forth.

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23. A loading platform system according to claim 20, wherein said transverse beam is essentially rectangular in cross-section.

REMARKS

The specification has been reviewed and some minor errors in the description have been corrected. The Examiner's objection concerning the examples of unclear terms given under par. 2 of the Official Action are not understood. The respective phrases are not found to be unclear. The claims have been reviewed and partially amended.

Claim 1 has been amended with a view to more distinctly defining the invention by including in claim 1 the subject matter of claim 2.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 - 4, and 6 - 24 as being unpatentable over Fretwell et al., US 5 556 250 in view of Mortenson and Disque.